SARL NEWS 1999 SEPTEMBER 05

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE
SARL NEWS SUNDAY 1999 SEPTEMBER 05

This is Amateur Radio Station ZS6SRL transmitting Amateur Radio News , a service from the South African Radio League for the interest of all Radio Amateurs, Short-wave Listeners and Electronic Enthusiasts. For a complete list of broadcast times and frequencies please send a SASE to Amateur Radio News, SARL, P O Box 1721 Strubensvallei 1735. This bulletin is also available on the SARL's web pages hosted by Intekom at www.sarl.org.za.

NEWS HEADLINES:

- HAMRADIO IS VERSATILE SARL PRESIDENT TOLD MEMBERS OF THE CARAVAN CLUB OF SOUTH AFRICA
- RADIO AMATEURS TO SUPPORT STANNIC GREAT NORTH RALLY ON SEPTEMBER 17 AND 18
- RADIO AMATEURS COME TO THE RESCUE OF CAPE TORNADO DISASTER
- TELKOM INTECNET2000 ON SUNDAY 12 SEPTEMBER TO FEATURE PSK31, THE RIVIVAL OF TELETYPE ON HF WITH MINIMUM OR NO CAPITAL OUTLAY

You are tuned to ZS6SRL, the news in detail next.

SILENT KEYS

We regret to announce the passing away of Bill Williamson ZS6MM on 19 August at the age of 89. He was an avid CW operator and was regularly heard on HF till 3 years ago when is health started to fail. To his wife Joy, his family and friends we extent our condolences.

Willem Veer ZS1LN , died on Tuesday after a short illness. He had been a radio amateur for almost 40 years and was well known for experimenting with modes such as SSTV. He was active until the day of his death. To his wife, family and friends we extend our condolences

(PAUSE 5 COUNTS)

You are tuned to ZS6SRL.

HAMRADIO IS VERSATILE SAYS SARL PRESIDENT.

"Hamradio is versatile" SARL President Hans Potgieter ZS6ALJ told members of the Caravan Club of Southern Africa in a message broadcast on Saturday 4 September 1999.

He said: " Today's rally again illustrates the versatility of the amateur radio service, from at one moment rendering emergency communications services to the tornado stricken areas of the Western Cape, to highly technical discussions

about the Automatic Packet Reporting System, Amateur Satellites and other technological advances to a social event sharing friendship and goodwill around the country and indeed around the world.

Amateur Radio encompasses a wide range of activities that will add enjoyment to what ever lifestyle you choose. Today Caravaners and Hams are joining forces in this country wide event. I urge you to get a handsome taste of what communication via amateur radio is all about by sharing greetings and caravaning antidotes in the many radio contacts that will be made between the various campsites.

This is an open invitation to sample our world", he said.

INTECNET2000 TO FEATURE PSK31

The next Telkom Sponsored INTECNET 2000 will feature a presentation and discussion on PSK31, an interesting digital application for HF. The programme will be on the air on Sunday 12 September from 18:00 - 19:30 UTC and features guest speaker Johan Forrer KC7WW.

PSK31 is a innovative system that detects weak signals, uses an extremely narrow bandwidth and works well with low power and compromised antenna systems to provide teletype operation and in many instances replacing RTTY and Amtor. No major capital outlay is required. It will work well with a modest computer with a sound card and any HF transceiver. Software is available free of charge.

Radio Clubs wishing to be connected to the Telkom Conference Bridge are urged to send their details by Wednesday 8 September to sarlnews@intekom.co.za. Please advise name of facilitator and Club affiliation, telephone number to be connected to, and frequencies on which they will be interactive. Only 9 links are available and will be allocated on a first come first serve basis.

"Here is an opportunity to learn some valuable skills. Learn the basics of communications, learn about modern digital methods, and learn at your time using your own computer. Have fun again without spending a lot of cash. Like the old days when one started out on CW and all that was fun!" Johan Forrer said in an interview with Amateur Radio Mirror International. Johan Forrer also holds the callsign ZS1HF. He has lived and worked in the USA since 1983.

INTECNET 2000 will also be broadcast by Sentech on 3215 kHz.

RADIO AMATEURS COME TO THE RESCUE OF CAPE TORNADO DISASTER

Within minutes of a tornado striking Cape communities in Mannenberg, Guguletu and Mitchell's Plein on Sunday Hamnet, the emergency communications group of the South African Radio League, provided back-up communication to the joint communications centre which was set up by the Army, SAPS, Disaster Management, Metro, Cape Town CMC, Eskom, and Fire Departments from the greater Cape Town region.

Radio Amateurs assisted with communications and provided a valuable link between the Weather Office and the Command station. Information gleaned from weather satellite pictures was also relayed. The swift action by Hamnet illustrates gain the valuable asset that amateur radio is to South Africa.

RADIO AMATEURS TO SUPPORT STANNIC GREAT NORTH RALLY

The Pretoria Amateur Radio Club will provide the communication, for the control and safety of the Stannic Great North Rally to be held on September 17 and 18. The team consisting of one control, 7 mobile and 10 field stations is made up of 14 members of the Pretoria Amateur Radio Club and 3 members of the Soutpansberg Amateur Radio Club. Use will be made of the he Wolkberg 145,600/145,700 MHz coupled repeater network.

The event is being organised by the Pretoria Motor Club and the route director John Ogden has come up with a rally that features 203km of special stage distance and 293km of road section for a total distance of 496km.

The route for the Stannic Great North Rally, round five of the Stannic Rally Championship, is hailed as one of the toughest of the season. The event is based in the Northern Province and starts and ends in Pietersburg. Both days also feature a special stage in Magoebaskloof with the rest of the rally centred around Tzaneen.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

When renewing your membership of the SARL, we request that those depositing directly into the SARL bank account please complete the FROM section at the bottom of the deposit slip. This section requires your name and telephone number, together with your call sign in the "reference number" field. This assists the SARL to record the deposit to the correct member. As the bank does not always capture this detail, we also request that you please either fax or post a copy of the deposit slip, together with your completed renewal form, to the SARL.

Several members have informed the SARL that they have not received the June Radio ZS and the renewal account. Please contact the office so that a duplicate account can be sent. The number is 011 675-2393 between 09:00 -13:00 on weekdays or call the 24 voicemail line on 088 120 5042 The SARL regrets all the inconveniences, which were largely outside our control. Corrective steps have been taken.

WIN WITH THE SARL MONTHLY DRAW COMPETITION

The August Edition of Radio-ZS will mailed on Monday and includes the competition form that was to have been mailed in early June. The competition offers members participation in 12 monthly draws for cash prizes for a once of entry. The cost per entry is R30 per unit. The first draw will take place in October and thereafter every month. The prize value depends on the number of entries received. Please enter as soon as possible. The entry form may be copied and

you may enter as many R30 units as you like. A percentage of the competition will be applied for the NARC Development and Education in Amateur Radio. You may also request that a form is faxed or Emailed to you. Call the SARL voicemail line on 088 120 5042 or Email sarlnews@intekom.co.za for a copy.

Good luck and thank you for your support.

1999 HAMNET SIMULATED EMERGENCY CONTEST RESULTS

The single mobile operator category was won by ZS5ACB with 1164 points. ZS5ABD was second with 990 points.

The Single portable category was won by ZS2U with ZS5MC and ZS2OC second and third. The scores were 1674, 1212 and 1035 respectively.

The multi-operator portable category was won by ZS6RTB followed by ZS5WFD, ZS4BFN and ZS5WI. The scores were 2457, 1344, 1155 and 1104.

The single operator base station category was won by ZS6XT with 600 points.

Congratulations

DONATIONS FROM LIONS CLUBS

The SARL received contributions to the National Amateur Radio Centre Development Fund from two Lions Clubs in appreciation for this year's Hunting Lions on the Air Contest. Thanks go to the Lions Club Cape Town Heerengracht for their R200 contribution and to the Lions Club Bergvliet for their contribution of R50. Hunting Lions on the Air is an International competition to promote friendship amongst nations and is run annually during the second full weekend in January.

FLUX LEVELS ON THE DECLINE

Dwight West reports that for the period 3 to 9 September solar activity will be low to Moderate. Flux levels will continue to decrease. There is a chance of flare activity from active regions until they disappear from view during this period.

Geo-magnetic conditions will remain quiet to unsettled with a possibility of active periods toward the end of the forecast period. Conditions are expected to be fairly good.

Last week solar activity was low to Moderate. The solar flux decreased steadily from the 200's to 157. The A-index ranged between 6 and 21. Geo-magnetic conditions were quiet to Minor storm conditions. This resulted in variable to good conditions.

CALLING FOR SIX METRE BEACON REPORTS

The Midlands Amateur Radio Club is inviting reports on a 6m beacon operating on 50,321 MHz situated at Hilton. It transmits a CW identifier

ZS5SIX. Please send reports to ZS5QR at the following Email address: ccarr@quarry.kzntl.gov.za

NEW MEMBERS

The SARL welcomes the following new members:

Richard Seddon ZR2CLI Ralph Hall ZS2IV Daleen hall ZR2DOL Daniel Mons ZS3D Johan van Zyl ZSL-008 Richard Bauermeister ZSL-005 Graham Timmens ZSL-007 Joe Haarhoff ZS1AAB Clyde Hymann ZS1CS Hennie Coetzee ZS1-003 Jha Britz ZS1-004 Claus Uwe Muller ZR6CMU Congratulations on joining the winning team, winning the future of Amateur Radio.

DIARY OF ACTIVITY

The Welkom Radio Klub meets again on Tuesday September 7 at 18:30 for 19:00 at the Clubhouse on the corner of Arrarat road and the old Welkom no3 shaft road. The main agenda item is a demonstration of a SWR meter and details of a kit will be discussed.

The Vrystaat Amateur Radioklub will be holding their AGM on 11 September at 12:00 noon at Becor House, cnr Roux and Grey Streets, Bethlehem. talk-in on 145,675 and 145,725. For more details contact Rickus at 083 462 7255

The OTL RADIOKLUB will hold their AGM on Saturday 18 September in the Belfast area. The meeting will be preceded by a bring and braai at 12:00 noon with the AGM staring at 14:00. Contact ZS6CJS or ZS6BHC on 145.500 or on 145.325 when in range for further directions The Pretoria Amateur Radio Club will be holding its usual spring flea market and bootsale on Saturday, 25 September starting at 08:30 in the parking area near the clubhouse on the south campus of the University of Pretoria. For further information and booking of tables, please contact Hans ZS6KR at 012 333 2612 or hans@smartnet.co.za.

Radio Clubs are invited to supply information for inclusion in the Diary of events. Information must reach the SARL News Service by not later than two weeks before the event. Information may be faxed to 031 765-6456 or by Email to: sarlnews@intekom.co.za. Please note the correct Email address.

The South African Radio League provides this bulletin of news as a service to Radio Amateurs and interested listeners on the African Continent. Join us on Sundays at 12:00 for the President's Net on 7082 kHz. This bulletin was written by ZS5AKV and read by ..

News in this bulletin was provided by the SARL News Service, Amateur Radio Clubs in South Africa, Amateur Radio Online and the ARRL .

Every Sunday you are invited to listen to Amateur Radio Mirror International. The programme is on the air on Sundays at 10:00 SAST on 9750 and 21530 kHz and repeated on Mondays at 20:00 SAST on 3215 kHz. Sentech, the common carrier for broadcasting signals in South Africa and Telkom who provides the transmission lines, sponsor these transmissions. The following VHF frequencies

are also activated from the Sentech Meyerton Transmitter site: 145,375 for the Northern Free State and Vaal triangle areas and 145,400 covering the greater Johannesburg area. In the greater Durban area there is a relay on 145,650 MHz.

ends - ZS5AKV.